![GAPNA - Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association]
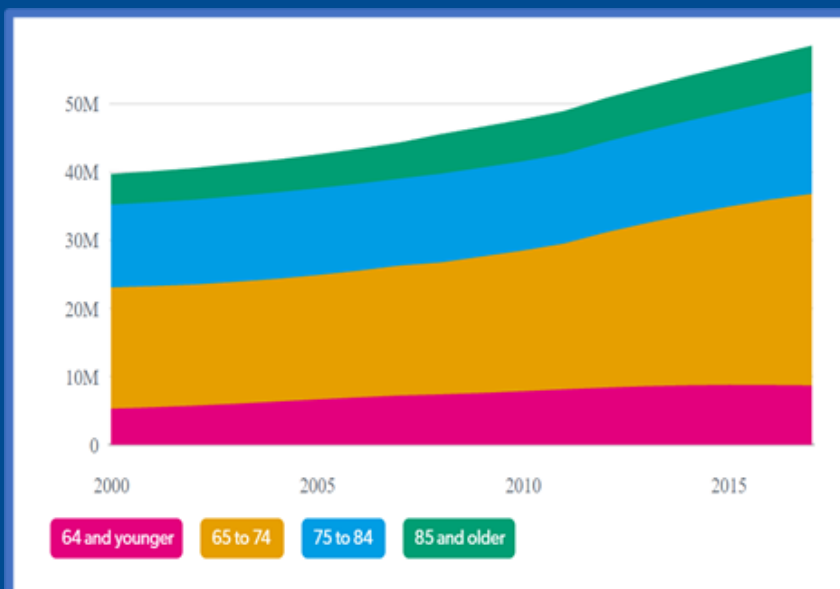
ORIGINAL MEDICARE

🔗 **Medicare** is health insurance for people 65 or older.
You may be eligible to get Medicare earlier if you
have a disability, End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD),
or ALS (also called Lou Gehrig's disease).
Medicare is not free for patients; they pay premiums, copays,
and deductibles. A 🔗 **Medigap** plan may cover these costs.

MEDICARE ELIGIBILITY

- People age 65 and older
- People under age 65 with permanent disability who have been receiving social security disability insurance (SSDI) payments for at least 2 years
- People with certain conditions such as ESRD and ALS

MEDICARE ENROLLMENT BY AGE

Medicare Parts and What They Cover

Part	Covers
A	Hospitals, Skilled Nursing, Home Health, Hospice
B	Outpatient/Preventative, Medical Equipment, Imaging/Labs, Mental Health
C	Medicare fee-for-service (FFS)alternate with potentially added benefits
D	Prescription drugs - plans outsourced to private companies
Not Covered Undeer FFS	Dental, Eye exams/Glasses, Long Term Care

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The current Medicare reimbursement policy for nurse practitioners (NPs) allows NPs to directly bill Medicare Part B for services they perform, they are reimbursed at only 85% of the physician rate. The "incident to" billing allows non-physician providers to report services as if they were performed by a physician, and get higher reimbursement. (American Academy of Coding Professionals). States have filed legislation on payment parity.